

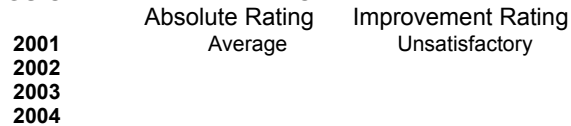
ABSOLUTE RATING: Average

IMPROVEMENT RATING: Unsatisfactory

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 88.

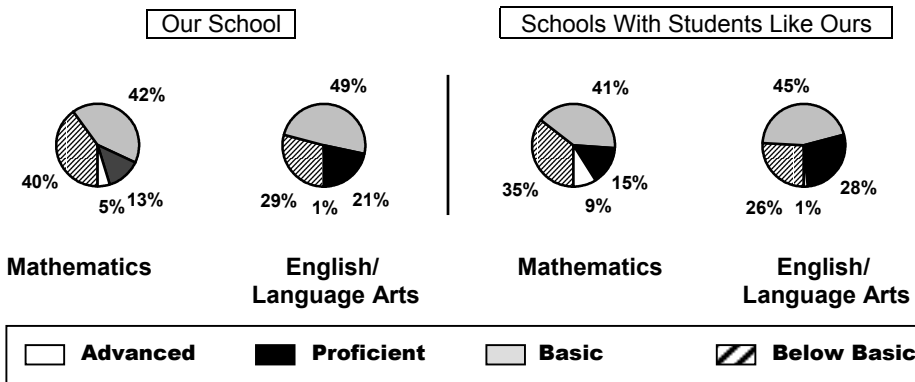
The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from below average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=167)	70.7	59.9	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=36)	38.9	35.1		
Students without disabilities (n=130)	80	66.9		
Gender				
Male (n=91)	63.7	56.5		
Female (n=75)	80	64		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=82)	61	49.4		
Hispanic (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=84)	81	70.2		
Other (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=103)	64.1	51		
Pay for lunch (n=63)	82.5	74.6		

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Dollars spent per student	\$6,064	N/A	\$5,112	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	88.4%	Down from 89.3%	90.1%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	16.8 to 1	N/A	18.3 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=445)				
• Attendance Rate	95.5%	Up from 95.1%	96.1%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	5.4%	N/A	3.6%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	3.6%	N/A	3%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	96.2%	Down from 97.7%	96.7%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	9%	Up from 7.8%	4%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=36)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	5 Days	Down from 7.1	7.4 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	93.9%	Down from 95.2%	95.1%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	58.3%	Down from 59%	44.8%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	66.7%	Down from 71.8%	84%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	0%	Down from 2.6%	0%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	78.2%	Down from 83.9%	87.8%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$36,471	Up 1.4%	\$36,723	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	70.4%	N/A	65.7%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	12	N/A	4	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	99%	N/A	95.4%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	57.8%	Up from 23.5%	46%	43.1%
• On academic probation	N/A	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	4%	Up from 2%	1.3%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	7	N/A	1	1
• Gifted and talented	3.4%	Up from 3.2%	9.6%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	14.3%	Up from 11%	8.3%	8.4%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Great Falls Elementary, located in rural Chester County, has been deregulated by the State Department of Education since 1997. This status is awarded to schools for improved test scores and student attendance.

The ethnic composition of our student population is 59% Caucasian and 41% African-American. Sixty-nine percent of our students qualify for free and/or reduced meals.

Our school's mission is for teachers, administrators, parents, and the community to join together in sharing the responsibility for providing challenging and successful opportunities for all students, enabling them to become lifelong learners and well-rounded, productive citizens who treat others with dignity and respect.

The faculty and staff have worked diligently to build a strong community of learners. Teachers have participated in intensive staff development in language arts, mathematics, and science. We are striving to make connections between the community and school through monthly parent workshops, frequent conferences, compacts with parents and students which emphasize that learning is a cooperative venture, and by encouraging parents to take an active role in their child's education. As a result of these efforts, we have seen a steady increase in our test results and an increase in the number of students who met the district standards for promotion.

During the 2000-2001 school year, our major focus was to improve our students' understanding of the writing process and its use as a tool for self-expression and inquiry across all areas of the curriculum.

Our goals for the next school year include an emphasis on the importance of students using a variety of learning strategies, personal skills and time management to strengthen their learning. We also plan to expand the use of science kits, literature centers, and Everyday Mathematics activities to enhance inquiry-based learning and problem solving skills.

We continue to face the challenge of having all students entering school ready to meet academic expectations. To assist in meeting this challenge we will continue to offer parenting programs for parents of children ages birth to four, pre-kindergarten classes, and monthly workshops for all parents.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	100.0	91.9	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0	87.2	
Satisfied with home-school relations	89.2	90.8	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

1201011

Great Falls Elementary
301 Dearborn Street
Great Falls, SC 29055

Grades PRE-K-4 Elementary School

Enrollment: 445 Students

Principal

Ms. Sue Cauthen 803-482-2214

Superintendent

Barry E. Campbell 803-385-6122

Board Chair

Denise C. Lawson 803-581-6224

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Below Average

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com